

Daily Constitution

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ATLANTA.
FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 27, 1876.

CHARLESTON, S. C., claims a German passport of \$500.

You might as well try to split water down a well cut's throat with a hot awl, as to try to bring down the people of the south and west.

Gov. ARNOLD of Mississippi, is of the opinion that a government supported by negro militia, armed with Remington rifles, is the best in the world.

KATE FIELD has been taking notes in parliament, and concludes that Disraeli can not be called an orator, "save when he is filled with rage and a more material stimulant."

GEN. BARBOUR estimates that it will require \$30,000 to repair and refurnish the executive mansion for the current year, which induces the supposition that an unusually riotous and rioting it inhabit it.

FERNANDO Wood declares the presidency, but he still wears an elegant white waistcoat, walks with his shoulders well thrown back, carries his right thumb in the armhole of his waistcoat, and cultivates an air suggestive of, "Don't I look more like Henry Clay than ever?"

The indications are that the republican party in California is already defeated by the independent, and that the charges of land speculation against Colonel Bidwell have ruined the independents. The democrats claim to possess the state by 4,000 to 6,000 plurality.

One of the foremost of the Rockford families who hoped so victoriously because Mr. Davis had promised to address the farmers of Wisconsin, was Mr. N. C. Thompson—a Georgia negro trader, who sold out his stock in trade and migrated to Illinois just before the war—Monongomery Avertiser.

EX-CONFEDERATE Col. MOSEY has expressed his views on the political situation to a reporter. He believes that the southern people make a serious mistake in not giving more active support to Gen. Grant, but, for himself, deems that he has permanently transferred his allegiance to the radical party.

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The beautiful article from which we take this extract is an editorial in the Philadelphia Press. What do the centennial gushers think of it? The Press is pre-eminently the centennial Press. Its editor, Pacific-Mail Forney, is now stopping Editor in behalf of the centennial show. We regret all this miserable business as much as any one can; we wish a centennial to be a means of promoting a spirit of reconciliation; but any such result is simply impossible if papers like the Press term with articles of that nature. Such a course renders reconciliation impossible, for it tells the people of the south in distinct terms that they must surrender all their convictions, and cast aside all self-respect to accept the notions and ideas of the conqueror who has come to power to meet them half way. It is the policy of the managers of the centennial? For the country's sake, we hope not.

OUR GREAT TRADE PAPER.

On September 1st, ten days hence, we shall issue our usual trade paper, exhibiting the business of Atlanta for the year ending at that time. Five thousand or more extra copies of the paper will be printed in full orders, and the issue in both size and circulation, one of the largest of any paper published in the South. We have already in hand about twenty columns of advertisements, and trust that all who have not secured space will at once do so, as every leading house or business has always deemed it important to be represented in the Annual Trade Paper. We refer to the advertisement elsewhere.

For a few weeks the CONSTITUTION has been smaller than required for our business, but it will be speedily enlarged to accommodate it.

The attack of Judge Pottle, of the Northern circuit, which appeared in the columns of the Augusta Chronicle, has been utterly crushed by a dignified letter from the pen of Judge Pottle himself. He was accused of making an unfair charge in the trial of a colored man for illegal voting. The "dignified" counsel were compelled to admit that he was under age when he voted, but claimed that he was honestly mistaken, and therefore, ought not to be convicted. Judge Pottle charged the jury "that when a voter's ballot he must know that he is a legal voter. If the defendant had exhausted all the means in his power to enable him to know his age, and then voted under an honest mistake, he ought not to be convicted. But if he had means at his command to enable him to know his age and did not resort to them, nor exhaust the means of information, and voted under twenty-one years, that he ought to be found guilty, even if his mother did inform him that he was of legal age." And Judge Pottle is just when he says that any other rules would open a wide door for frauds on the ballot. He did his duty in enforcing the law against the prevalent evil of unlawful voting by colored minors, and can well afford to disregard his assailant.

THE Columbus Enquirer gives currency to the rumor that Grant, Alexander & Co. will purchase the North and South roads when the state offers it for sale. They hope to buy it for a few figures, with a view of completing it to LaGrange. Most of the grading is completed. So runs the Columbus sensation. The Enquirer is trying to promote such a disposition of the road. The little project will not fail. The people of Marietta and Fayette want a direct road to Atlanta, and they will get it sooner or later.

JUDGE WRIGHT'S PROPOSITION.

The Rome bond question still agitates Augusta where the obligees chiefly reside, and also Rome where the obligors have their local habitations. The Augusta bondholders want all back interest and 70 per cent of the principal. Their demands come with "some pretty heavy threats," it seems, and this is resulting in a spirit of retaliation at Rome, "to pay nothing." The Augusta people want more than they gave for their bonds, which Rome thinks is a little unreasonable when it is remembered that she only has her water works to show for an indebtedness of \$400,000, and that the water works cost twice as much as they should. In other words, Rome only netted \$50,000 from loans that amount to eight times that sum. This is a bad showing, as all must admit. Her railroad schemes have failed; many of her people are in embarrassed circumstances; her iron interests are sadly depressed, and she thinks it unjust in the bondholders' Augusta "to speculate upon her calamities."

These facts have induced Judge Augustus R. Wright to project a new compromise proposition. He believes that the Romans should not be expected to pay over fifty per cent of the debt. He believes the city can and will do it. The bondholders will accept it. This is his proposition:

We never can settle with all the bondholders at once, for we never can get them all to

gether. Our plan of settlement involves compromising with all such as will accept an offer, a standing offer (say for one year) to be made to the bondholders. Let us offer to pay 50 cents in the dollar of the principal of each such bond as the major and council shall be notified can be paid with that sum. Let the bonds be filed with some person for payment (say the president of some Atlanta bank) when the notice is served. Whenever as much as ten thousand are thus filed, let the city council levy a tax of 60 days to pay the same. We cannot pay more than fifty thousand dollars per annum of more than that sum be filed, let the city pay 8 per cent, interest from the day of filing to the day of payment. Let those first filed be first paid.

The Judge says he knows of large amounts of bonds that will be brought in on such terms. He admits that his plan would sell out some of the tax-payers of Rome, but some of them would have to be sold out in any possible settlement of the bond troubles. And then he clinches the points of his communication with the following unqualified statements: "It is useless to talk about more than fifty cents on the dollar in the market. It is three times as much as the people received for their bonds. It is as much as the city of Rome can pay and be prosperous." The bondholders of Augusta will be apt to consider the proposition as only another name for repudiation; they will be apt to think that Rome should pay a little more, even if she should not be quite so prosperous; but in the end they will come to the conclusion that half a loaf is better than no loaf at all.

MR. DAVIS' LETTER.

While the administration journals generally endorse the attitude of the Winnesaukee, yet it has been their good fortune to see but one of them that had the candor to denounce Mr. Davis' masterly, calm and dignified letter of withdrawal. Partisan sheets that bitterly attacked the directors of the agricultural association are silent in respect to his address. They state the facts without comment. They do not find a sentence in the Winnesaukee doctrine on which they can hang any adverse criticism. Its moderation and its grace of expression stay their pens as a rule; but they did not stay one malignant pen, as the following extract shows:

The letter is as intensely egotistical as it is impudent. It is characteristic of the man who rejects the evil he worked. Jefferson Davis has never said a word written in a line since the close of the war, which does not evidence that

